

FCC 388

DTV Consumer Education Quarterly Activity Report

Instructions

This form should be used to provide the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with information pertaining to all station activity to educate consumers on the transition to digital television (DTV). All stations should log DTV Transition-Related Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and other DTV activities using the appropriate house (identification) numbers. These logs or records should include the date and time that each DTV activity occurred. This form must be filed in Docket Number 07-148 as Document Type: REPORT, and placed in the station's Public Inspection File. This form must continue to be filed for each quarter in which a station has DTV Transition education obligations.

- Go to the ECFS upload page: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/upload_v2.cgi
- Fill out the relevant cover sheet information.
- In the "Send Comment Files to FCC (Attachments)" section click the "Browse" button to choose the file you want to attach. (Or the first file if you have multiple files to attach)
- Click on the "Select one of these file types or convert your file to one of these types:" dropdown to choose the type of file that was attached.
- Click "Send Attached File to FCC"
- If you only had one file to attach click "Finish Transaction and Receive Confirmation".
- If you have another file to attach, click on the "Enter Additional Attachments"

Station Call Sign(s)

WXIX

Report reflects information for quarter ending (mm/dd/yy)

03/31/08

Have you opted to comply with Option One, Two, or Three (once elected, this choice may not change)?

☐ Option One (A and D)

☒ Option Two (B and D)

☐ Option Three (C and D)

Over the past quarter, have you fully complied with the requirements of this option?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Simulcasting

Are you simulcasting on your Analog channel and your primary Digital stream?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If YES, complete only one form for both. If NO, complete a form for your Analog channel and a second for your primary Digital stream

Call Sign	Channel Numbers	Community of License					
		City	State	County	Zip Code		
wxix	Analog 19 <input type="checkbox"/>	Newport	KY	Campbell	41071		
	Digital 29.1 <input type="checkbox"/>						
Licensee WXIX License Subsidiary, LLC							
Above, circle the Channel Number(s) to which this form applies.			Nielsen DMA Cincinnati	World Wide Web Home Page Address www.FOX19.com			
Facility ID Number 39738	Previous Call Sign (if applicable)	License Renewal Expiration Date (mm/dd/yy) 08/01/13					

Section A (For broadcasters electing Option One)

Stations that elect Option One must place a copy of this form on the station's public website, if such exists.

On its analog channel, and its primary digital stream, a station must air one transition PSA, and run one transition crawl, in every quarter of every day. This requirement will increase to two PSAs and crawls per quarter per day on April 1, 2008, and to three of each on October 1, 2008. Stations are required to air PSAs or crawls at various times in any given day part, and at least one PSA and one crawl per day must be run during primetime hours. On-air education must not contain inaccurate or misleading statements and must be provided in the same language as a majority of the programming carried by the station. PSAs must be at least 15 seconds, and closed-captioned. Crawls must run during programming for no fewer than 60 consecutive seconds across the bottom or top of the viewing area (See rules for additional details).

Have you aired a sufficient number of eligible PSAs (28, 56, or 84 per week, depending on the reporting period) during the correct quarters of the day?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you aired a sufficient number of eligible crawls (28, 56, or 84 per week, depending on the reporting period) during the correct quarters of the day?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Section B (For broadcasters electing Option Two)

On its analog channel, and its primary digital stream, a station must run an average of 16 transition-related PSAs and 16 transition-related crawls, snipes, and/or tickers per week in each quarter, all between the hours of 5 a.m. and 1 a.m.. It must also run one 30 minute DTV-related informational program once, and one 100-Day Countdown piece per day for the 100 days prior to the conclusion of the transition. Comment boxes MUST be used to describe these compliant activities (See rules for additional details).

Total Number of Eligible DTV Transition-Related PSAs and Crawls, Snipes, and/or Tickers (CSTs) Run -- Last Quarter

How many DTV PSAs and CSTs did your station run between 5:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. last quarter?

Total 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. PSAs

2

Total 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. CSTs

5

For informational purposes only, how many DTV PSAs and CSTs did your station run in the last quarter from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.?

Total 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. PSAs

0

Total 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. CSTs

0

For stations located in the Eastern or Pacific Time Zone, how many DTV PSAs and CSTs did your station run in the last quarter from 6:00 p.m. to 11:35 p.m. (must average at least 4 per week)?

Total 6:00 p.m. to 11:35 p.m. PSAs

0

Total 6:00 p.m. to 11:35 p.m. CSTs

2

For stations located in the Central or Mountain Time Zone, how many DTV PSAs and CSTs did your station run in the last quarter from 5:00 p.m. to 10:35 p.m. (must average at least 4 per week)?

Total 5:00 p.m. to 10:35 p.m. PSAs

Total 5:00 p.m. to 10:35 p.m. CSTs

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

See attached for complete breakout of days and times aired for PSA's and CST's. All PSA's were locally produced.

30 Minute Educational Programs – Last Quarter

How many 30 minute, DTV-related informational programs did your station run during the quarter? At least one such program must be run between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:35 p.m., prior to February 17, 2009.

Total number of 30 Minute Informational Programs

0

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

100-Day Countdown Eligible Pieces – Last Quarter

Beginning on November 10, 2008, all stations participating in Option Two will engage in special 100-Day “Countdown to DTV” activities. Stations must execute a minimum of one “Countdown to DTV” on-air activity per day during the 100 days leading up to February 17, 2009. During the last quarter, how many of each eligible 100-Day “Countdown to DTV” pieces did your station run?

Graphic Displays

Animated Graphics

Graphic and Audio Displays

Longer Form Reminders

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

Section C (For Noncommercial broadcasters only)

On its analog channel, and its primary digital stream, a station must air 60 seconds per day of on-air consumer education, in variable timeslots, including at least 7.5 minutes per month between 6 pm and 12 am. Beginning May 1, 2008, this requirement doubles, and beginning November 1, 2008, it increases again, to 180 seconds per day and 22.5 minutes per month between 6 pm and midnight. It must also run one 30 minute transition education piece once (See rules for additional details).

Have you aired a sufficient amount of consumer education (60, 120, or 180 seconds per day, depending on the date) during each day this quarter?

☐ Yes ☐ No

30 Minute Educational Programs – Last Quarter

How many 30 minute, DTV-related informational programs did your station run during the quarter? The comment box may be used to describe this activity. At least one such program must be run between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:35 p.m., prior to February 17, 2009.

Total number of 30 Minute Informational Programs

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

Section D (For all broadcasters)

Additional DTV On-air Initiatives – Last Quarter

Did your station run additional on-air initiatives (such as news reports, town hall meetings, etc.) during the quarter? The comment box may be used to describe these initiatives.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

Station Website Additional Activity Related to the DTV Transition – Last Quarter

Does your station have a Website? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If YES, did your station provide additional DTV related information or activities on that Website? The comment box may be used to describe what was posted on the station's Website.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

WXIX posts web content including a countdown clock and answers to frequently asked questions regarding the digital transition. Please see attached for copies of web content.

Additional DTV Outreach Efforts -- Last Quarter

Check all of the DTV related activities listed below that your station engaged in over the last quarter. The comment box may be used to describe this activity.

☐ Speaking Engagements

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

☐ Community Events

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

☐ Other (describe)


Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

This comment box may be used to include other comments or information about your station's DTV activity over the last quarter.

Comments (add additional sheets where necessary):

STATION CERTIFICATION

I certify that the statements in this document are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith.

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Rick Oliver	Typed or Printed Title of Person Signing Director of Programming & Station Operations
Signature <input type="checkbox"/> 	Date 4/4/08

WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS ON THIS FORM ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT (U.S. CODE, TITLE 18, SECTION 1001), AND/OR REVOCATION OF ANY STATION LICENSE OR CONSTRUCTION PERMIT (U.S. CODE, TITLE 47, SECTION 312(a)(1)), AND/OR FORFEITURE (U.S. CODE, TITLE 47, SECTION 503).

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FOX19 / WXIX-TV
CONTRACT REPORT

RUN DATE: 4/02/08
RUN TIME: 11:36A

PAGE 1

SELECTED DATES: 3/31/08 - 3/31/08
ADV/ORD.: 80181- 1 WXIX/THE BIG SWITCH

ADV/PR: WXIX/THE BIG SWITCH/*30
AGENCY EST #: DTV

CONTRACT DATES: 3/31/08 - 3/29/09

SLS: 28 STRICKER, RON

SS#-DR#	SS GRP	-----DATES----- START END	DESCRIPTION	RS	PRICE	LEN	SPT WK	BK TP	SHOW NAME	AIR DATE	TIME	FACILITY DESC	PR GRP	STATUS
1		3/31/08 3/29/09	M-SU 5A-6P ROS	F1		0 :30	12		DIVORCE CO MORNING SH	3/31/08 3/31/08	10:22:23A 11:53:03A	30 BIG SWITCH 30 THE BIG SWI		POSTED POSTED

*** END OF REPORT ***

5 CEN 25

DTV CRAWLS CHECKLIST - First Quarter 2008

DATE	DAY OF WEEK	SHOW	TIME SCHEDULED	TIME CRAWL RAN
3/31/2008	Monday	Mike & Juliet	11:30AM	11:30AM
3/31/2008	Monday	According to Jim	6:20PM	6:19PM
3/31/2008	Monday	King of Queens	7:00PM	7:17PM
3/31/2008	Monday	Family Guy	11:30PM	11:31PM
3/31/2008	Monday	Seinfeld	12:30AM	12:49AM

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THE BIG SWITCH

COUNTDOWN TO DTV



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[freebies](#)
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THE BIG SWITCH - FOX19.COM ...

-  Chris Henry Appears Before Hamilton Co Judge
-  The Big Switch: Why Is It Happening? Sheila Gray Reports
-  What is The Big Switch? Jack Atherton reports
-  The Big Switch
-  The Big Switch: Is your DVD player a thing of the past?
-  The Big Switch -- A News


Chris Henry Appears Before Hamilton Co Judge



01:12 | 03:59

EMAIL VIDEO HELP?



CheckSmart



The Video Guru - Q&A



VIDEO GURU Q & A

-  The Video Gur between analo
-  The Video Gur take place?"
-  The Video Gur DTV?
-  The Video Gur compatible?
-  The Video Gur watch HDTV?

EMAIL VIDEO

320
DAYS

09
HOURS

30
MINS

39
SECS



ITT Technical Institute

EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

What is digital television (DTV)?

What is the February 17th, 2009 DTV deadline date?

Is HDTV the same thing as DTV?

Once broadcasters transition from analog to digital, will analog televisions will be obsolete?

Will I be able to use my VCR, DVD player and camcorder with an HDTV set?

What is the digital TV transition?

Why are we switching to DTV?

Will I need a new TV?

How do I get DTV or HDTV?

Do I already have DTV via digital cable or satellite?

FOX 19 News Full Story >

Woman charged in filthy-apartment case

Hundreds get hepatitis vaccination after restaurant warning

Explosion destroys church outside Milwaukee, damages 2 homes; 7 hurt, including 3 firefighters

Woman may need rabies shots after biting pit bull to save her dog

Cockfighting fans battle federal ban, file lawsuit in Ohio

America's Most Wanted adds fugitive Marine to list

EL GRAN CAMBIO - Cu Digital (DTV)

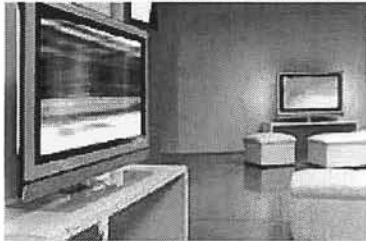
The NTIA Converter Box Coupon Program



Between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, eligible households can request up to two coupons, each valued at \$40, toward the purchase of converters. **You can call 1-888-388-2009 to get coupons.**

[Full Story >](#)

A Guide to Digital Television



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By now you've probably heard about digital television. You know that local TV stations around the country are transitioning to digital TV. But you might not know what that means for you. Here's a guide

to help you understand the new universe of digital TV.

The NTIA Converter Box Coupon Program - [Click Here](#)

[Full Story >](#)

Jobs package revamped in bipartisan compromise

Governor: 1,100 lawyers volunteering to stave off foreclosures in Ohio

Highland Co. Drug Bust Nets 8 Indictments

Indiana Couple Killed In Crash

- › **Approved Retailers for DTV Converter Boxes**
- › **TV Types: Facts at a Glance**
- › **DTV FAQs**
- › **Will I be able to use my VCR, DVD player and camcorder with an HDTV set?**
- › **Do I already have DTV via digital cable or satellite?**
- › **Will I need a new TV?**
- › **What is the digital TV transition?**
- › **Once broadcasters transition from analog to digital, will analog televisions will be obsolete?**
- › **Title III--Digital Television Transition and Public Safety**
- › **DTV Glossary**
- › **How do I get DTV or HDTV?**



Additional DTV Resources

- › **Troubleshooting DTV Reception with an Antenna**
- › **DTV Publications**
- › **What's On DTV?**
- › **National Association of Broadcasters DTV Information Site**
- › **Digital Television Transition Coalition**
- › **NTIA Converter Box Information**
- › **HDTV Magazine DTV Primer**
- › **Consumer Electronics Retailers DTV Q&A**
- › **Antenna Consumers Guide**



DTV Shoppers' Guide

It's High Time for High-Def

With a federal deadline changing the way TV signals are broadcast less than two years away, now is the time to purchase an HDTV. This primer will help you figure out what to buy.

[Full Story >](#)

What You Should Know Before You Buy



No need to feel overwhelmed by the Digital TV transition; here's what you need to know before you go shopping for updated equipment.

[Full Story >](#)

Terms You Need to Know

Take this cheat sheet along when you go shopping.

[Full Story >](#)



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What is digital television (DTV)?

 **En Español**

**EL GRAN CAMBIO - Cuenta
regresiva a Televisión
Digital (DTV)**

Digital television (DTV) is a new type of broadcasting technology that will transform television as we now know it. By transmitting the information used to make a TV picture and sound as "data bits" (like a computer), a digital broadcaster can carry more information than is currently possible with analog broadcast

technology.

For example, the technology allows the transmission of pictures with higher resolution for dramatically better picture and sound quality than currently available – called High Definition Television (HDTV) - or the transmission of several "standard definition" TV programs at once – called "multicasting." "Standard definition" digital TV pictures would be similar in clarity and detail to the best TV pictures being received and displayed today using the current analog broadcast system and TV receivers.

DTV technology can also be used to provide interactive video and data services that are not possible with "analog" technology.

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*February 1 through
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What is the February 17th, 2009 DTV deadline date?

En Espanol

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Digital (DTV)**

Congress passed a law on February 1, 2006, setting a final deadline for the DTV transition of February 17, 2009. Most television stations will continue broadcasting both analog and digital programming until February 17, 2009, when all analog broadcasting will stop. Analog TVs receiving over-the-air

programming will still work after that date, but owners of these TVs will need to buy converter boxes to change digital broadcasts into analog format. Converter boxes will be available from consumer electronic products retailers at that time. Cable and satellite subscribers with analog TVs should contact their service providers about obtaining converter boxes for the DTV transition.

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Is HDTV the same thing as DTV?



En Espanol

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Digital (DTV)**

No. HDTV is the highest quality of DTV, but it is only one of many formats. In addition to HDTV, the most common formats are Standard Definition Television (SDTV) and Enhanced Definition Television (EDTV).

SDTV is the baseline display and resolution for both analog and digital. Transmission of SDTV may be in either the traditional (4:3) or wide-screen (16:9) format.

EDTV is a step up from Analog Television. EDTV comes in widescreen (16:9) or traditional (4:3) format and provides better picture quality than SDTV, but not as high as HDTV.

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Once broadcasters transition from analog to digital, will analog televisions will be obsolete?

En Espanol

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Digital (DTV)**

No. Set-top boxes which convert digital signals to analog signals are available now and will continue to be available at lower prices to consumers as the transition progresses. However, to enjoy the full benefits of Digital TV, including superior sound and clarity, you must own a Digital TV set. An analog television, with the addition

of a set-top box, will still allow viewers to enjoy all of the programming they have always enjoyed.

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Will I be able to use my VCR, DVD player and camcorder with an HDTV set?

 **En Espanol**

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Digital (DTV)**

HDTV sets are "backward compatible," meaning existing analog equipment (VCRs, DVD players, camcorders, video games, etc.) will work on digital TV sets, but not in high definition. Their video will be displayed in the maximum resolution that is available with each product.

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What is the digital TV transition?

FOX 19 En Español

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The switch from analog TV (the traditional TV system using magnetic waves to transmit and display TV pictures and sound) to digital television (the new TV system using information transmitted as "data bits" -- like a computer -- to display movie-quality pictures and sound), is referred to as the digital TV (DTV)

transition.

In 1996, the U.S. Congress authorized the distribution of an additional broadcast channel to each TV broadcaster so that they could introduce DTV service while simultaneously continuing their analog TV broadcasts. In addition to improved picture and sound quality, an important benefit of DTV is that it will free up parts of the broadcast spectrum for public safety as well as other valuable uses. This is possible because the modern technology of DTV is more efficient than analog TV technology.

DTV allows the same number of stations to broadcast using fewer total channels (less of the broadcast spectrum) which will free up scarce and valuable spectrum for public safety and new wireless services.

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Why are we switching to DTV?

En Español

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Digital (DTV)**

DTV is a more flexible and efficient technology than the current analog system. For example, rather than being limited to providing one "analog" programming channel, a broadcaster will be able to provide a super sharp "high definition" (HDTV) program or multiple "standard definition" DTV programs simultaneously.

Providing several program streams on one broadcast channel is called "multicasting." The number of programs a station can send on one digital channel depends on the level of picture detail, also known as "resolution," desired in each programming stream. DTV can provide interactive video and data services that are not possible with "analog" technology.

Converting to DTV will also free up parts of the scarce and valuable broadcast airwaves. Those portions of the airwaves can then be used for other important services, such as advanced wireless and public safety services (for example, police, fire departments, and rescue squads).

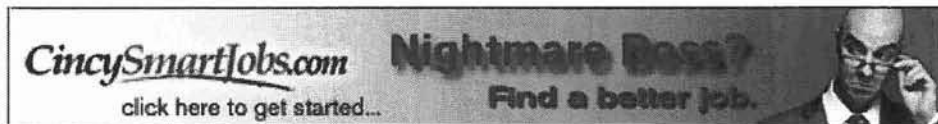
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Will I need a new TV?

Your current television will work as it does now until analog broadcasting stops. Even after the transition is over, your current TV will not become obsolete. A converter box can be used to receive broadcast DTV signals and change them into the format of your current television. In addition, if you use your analog set with a multichannel pay service like cable or satellite, it will continue to work as it always has. Even with a converter box, however, your current analog television will not be capable of displaying the full picture quality of DTV. To enjoy the full picture quality, you must have a DTV set. Subscribers to cable and DBS services should contact their providers regarding converter boxes for those services.

What do DTV sets look like and what will they cost?

Most DTV sets have wider, more rectangular screens than current analog TVs. This widescreen format allows for images that are more like those shown in a movie theater. Like current TV sets, a range of sizes is available. As with most new consumer electronics technologies, DTV sets have become less expensive since their introduction. Prices are expected to continue to decrease over time and will vary depending on screen size, display technology, and other features.

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How do I get DTV or HDTV?



En Espanol

**EL GRAN CAMBIO – Cuenta
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Digital (DTV)**

Receiving the DTV and HDTV signals over-the-air requires an antenna and a new DTV receiver that can decode the digital signals. In general, an antenna that provides quality reception of over-the-air analog TV signals will work for DTV reception.

If you are a cable or satellite customer, you may need a **set-top box** to receive DTV signals and convert them into the format of your current analog television, even after the DTV transition is complete. A DTV set-top box also may receive multicast channels and high definition programming and display them in analog picture quality.

Check with your cable or satellite provider to determine if and when you will need a set-top box. A listing of the operational DTV stations is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/mb/video/files/dtvonair.html>. Satellite TV providers and most cable systems are currently offering DTV programming. Subscribers should check with their service providers to see what programming is available in their area.

Source: <http://www.dtv.gov>

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Do I already have DTV via digital cable or satellite?

 **En Espanol**

**EL GRAN CAMBIO – Cuenta
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Digital (DTV)**

You may have DTV if you subscribe to the digital package and get digital programming, often described as HDTV. But the digital cable tier and satellite service are not necessarily DTV. Your cable or satellite system may be using digital technology as a more efficient way of delivering analog programming to you. If you have an analog television set, then you are probably not getting DTV, even though the reception may be somewhat improved. Check with your cable or satellite provider to find out for sure.

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The NTIA Converter Box Coupon Program

What is a digital-to-analog converter box and how do I get one?

Digital-to-analog converter boxes will make DTV signals viewable on analog TV sets. These converter boxes will be available in retail stores during the transition. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce has been directed by Congress to set up a program that will allow households to obtain coupons that can be applied toward the purchase of digital-to-analog converter boxes.



Example Converter Box Coupon

FOX 19 En Español
EL GRAN CAMBIO – Cuenta
regresiva a Televisión Digital
(DTV)

When can I apply for my coupons?

You can apply for a coupon between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, while supplies last.

How do I request a coupon?

Between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, you can request a coupon while supplies last in one of four ways:

- Apply online
- Call the Coupon Program 24-hour hotline 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009), TTY 1-877-530-2634 (English), TTY 1-866-495-1161 (Spanish)
- Mail a coupon application to: PO BOX 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000. Download a Coupon Application [here](#).
- Fax a coupon application to 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632)

The consumer contact center will operate in six languages in addition to English: French, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese. The contact center will be accessible for hearing-impaired persons through a TTY number. The contact center and website can help answer questions you may have about obtaining and redeeming coupons, checking the status of your coupon request, and other issues.

Are coupon applications available any place else such as the library or grocery

store?

NTIA is working with its partners to make applications available in the places where it makes the most sense for each community. The easiest way to apply is to call 1-888-388-2009, or, apply online. If you don't have a computer, your local library probably has computer terminals for public use.

Will retailers make coupon applications available in their stores?

Some retailers may offer coupon application forms at their stores. Retailers, however, cannot provide the coupons; consumers must request them from the Government. The decision to provide applications is up to each retailer. The easiest way to apply is to call 1-888-388-2009, or apply online.

When will I get my coupons?

Consumers who apply at the beginning of 2008 will receive their coupons when TV converter boxes are expected to be available in retail stores, probably in late February or early March.

What will the TV converter box coupon look like?

Coupons will look like plastic credit cards or gift cards used widely in the retail industry. Unlike gift cards, TV converter box coupons will carry no stored value and can only be used towards the purchase of eligible TV converter boxes.

Are all consumers eligible for the coupon program?

Yes, but supplies are limited. There are 22.25 million coupons available to all U.S. households. Once those coupons have been used, there are an additional 11.25 million coupons available only to households that solely receive their TV broadcasts over-the-air using an antenna. Households with TVs connected to cable, satellite or other pay TV service are not eligible for this second batch of coupons. Consumers can apply for coupons until March 31, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

How many coupons can I request?

Each household can request a maximum of two coupons. Each coupon may be applied towards the purchase of a single converter box. The coupons can be ordered one at a time or both at the same time.

What information do I need to provide the government to request my coupons?

The TV converter box coupon application requires that you provide your name, household address, number of coupons requested (maximum of two) and whether you subscribe to cable, satellite or other pay television service.

Will the government use my name and address for other purposes?

No. Your personal information is protected under privacy laws and will not be sold or used for other purposes other than administering the NTIA Coupon Program.

Are nursing homes, group homes and other institutions eligible for coupons?

Applicants must meet the Census definition of a household as consisting of "all persons who currently occupy a house, apartment, mobile home, group of rooms, or single room that is occupied as separate living quarters and has a separate U.S. postal address." A household is defined as separate living quarters with a separate U.S. Postal address. This definition includes all households located in U.S. Territories, but does not include Post Office Boxes.

Can I apply for someone who is unable to apply for themselves, such as an elderly parent?

Yes, but you will need to use their home address which will be validated for eligibility. Only two coupons can be used per U.S. household address, and the coupons are intended for the resident of that household.

What if I receive my mail at a Post Office Box?

The government can mail coupons to Post Office boxes in areas without home mail delivery. Post Office boxes will be accepted only for households on Indian reservations, Alaskan Native villages and other rural areas. The government may request additional information to validate the physical location of these households.

About the Digital Converter Box

How much do I have to pay for a TV converter box?

When TV converter boxes are available, retail stores will set the price. TV converter boxes are expected to cost between \$50 and \$70. The Federal Government permits each U.S. household up to two \$40 coupons to help pay for the cost of the converter box. After applying the coupon, participating retailers will charge consumers the remaining balance of between \$10 and \$30.

When can I buy a TV converter box?

TV converter boxes are expected to be available in early 2008 at retailers where you would normally buy consumer electronics products. Before shopping for your converter box, you might want to call ahead to make sure retailers have converter boxes available.

What is meant by an "eligible" TV converter box?

TV converter box models must meet technical and performance standards determined by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in order to qualify for the Coupon Program. A list of eligible make and model numbers for purchase with the coupon can be found at our website, by clicking here.

Which manufacturers are making the TV converter boxes?

Are there differences? See a complete list of eligible TV converter boxes here. TV converter box features may vary depending on the brand; however all models will allow your analog TV to continue to operate after February 17, 2009. The best way to get information on individual converter boxes is to visit the manufacturer's website-or ask a customer service specialist at a store that sells them.

Does someone have to come into my home to install the converter box?

No, you should be able to install the converter box yourself using the instructions provided by the manufacturer. For specific questions, you should call the manufacturer's technical support hotline or ask your retailer. The NTIA program does not provide technical support.

How big is the converter box?

Converter boxes are about the size of a paperback book. Most will fit on top of a small to medium TV set.

Can I use the converter box along with my cable box?

No. Converter boxes from this program work only with over-the-air broadcast television signals, not cable or satellite service.

Will I receive Closed Captioning through a converter?

Yes. Manufacturers of converters are required to provide Closed Captioning for display on your television.

Do I need to purchase a TV converter box that is the same brand as my TV?

No.

***I have a handheld or battery-powered TV. Will this work after February 17, 2009?
Can I connect it to a TV converter box?***

Generally not.

Will my VCR or DVD player still work once I plug my converter box into my TV?

The analog equipment you currently use will continue to work with (output to) your analog TV set just as before, but they will not be able to receive over-the-air programming without the TV converter box. Attach the converter to your VCR, TiVo, DVD-R, etc. instead of hooking it directly to your TV.

Can I start using my TV converter box now or do I need to wait until after February 17, 2009 for it to work?

Consumers can begin enjoying the benefits of digital television today. Because most full-power stations are currently broadcasting both in digital and analog, viewers can plug in their converter boxes and generally receive a clearer picture and "multicast" channels, where they are available.

Will I receive High-Definition TV with a converter box?

No. Analog televisions are not capable of displaying High-Definition resolution, but the picture will generally be better with a TV converter box. If you want to view High-Definition TV, then you will need one of the newer sets rated for "High-Definition" resolution.

More FAQs

Source: <https://www.dtv2009.gov/FAQ.aspx>



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A Guide to Digital Television


En Español

**EL GRAN CAMBIO – Cuenta
regresiva a Televisión
Digital (DTV)**

By Daisy Whitney

By now you've probably heard about digital television. You know that local TV stations around the country are transitioning to digital TV. But you might not know what that means for you. Here's a guide to help you understand the new universe of digital TV.

Broadcasters are changing to digital because the government has mandated that local TV stations must provide their programming in the new broadcasting technology known as digital TV. Digital brings a crisper, clearer look to your TV picture. Digital technology also lets broadcasters transmit network programming in high-definition as well, also a much sharper picture. Finally, digital technology is also more efficient and frees up space to transmit other information, such as safety services or additional channels. Nearly all local stations are currently sending their programming today in digital, but they also are continuing to transmit their signals in analog. But, they will no longer transmit their programs in analog after Feb. 17, 2009, per the government mandate.

However you won't lose your local programming on that date. Nor do you have to rush out today to buy a new set. But here's what you will need to know to keep receiving your regular programs from the local station.

The big question you probably have is what do you need to buy?

All high-definition sets are also digital, but not all digital sets are high-definition.

If you decide to take the high-definition plunge, you'll need a new set. High-definition sets have dropped significantly in price the last few years. While you can still spend several thousand for a fancy model to hang on the wall or stretch across your living room, the good news is you can also buy a high-definition set for under \$500 today. Head into any electronics retailer that sells TVs and you should be able to find one. You may want to check a consumer guide in advance for specific details on makes and models.

Once you've got the set, you'll either need to sign up for high-definition programming from your cable provider or satellite operator. But if you don't have cable, you can still get high-definition signals and digital TV. You simply need an antenna appropriate for your location receive your local programming free over the air on your new high-definition set.

Also, remember that if you don't want to invest in a high-definition TV, your set won't go dark on Feb. 18, 2009. You can essentially turn your analog TV of today into a TV that receives digital signals simply with a converter box. You might even be eligible to receive a government subsidy towards the purchase of one. You can also buy a converter box from most electronics stores like Circuit City, Best Buy, Radio Shack or a locally-owned dealer.

When you go to the store, simply tell the salesperson that you need a high-definition receiver to get digital signals.

By the end of 2007 more than 47 million households in the United States will have high-definition TV sets, up from 35 million at the end of 2006. Also, by the end of 2007, only 16 million of those 47 million homes will have hooked up their high-definition sets to high-definition programming, according to Jupiter Research. Many consumers don't realize they must sign up for HD programming from their cable or satellite operator, or use rabbit ears to receive the programming free via their local broadcaster.

So if you do buy that new set, don't forget to get the programming too!



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